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Pitcher

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(54) **UNIFIED MESSAGING SYSTEM**

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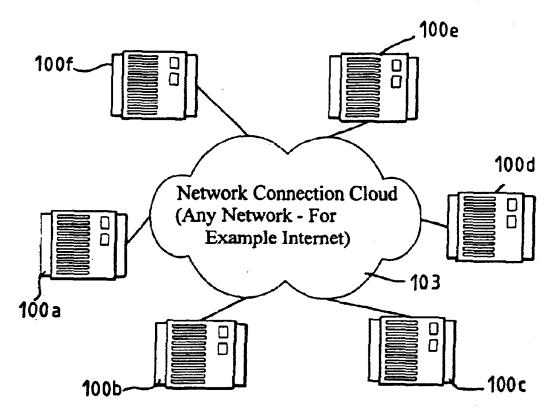|		
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(57)   **ABSTRACT**

A unified messaging system, comprising a plurality of nodes (**100***a*–**100***f*) and network means (**103**) for interconnecting said plurality of nodes for distributed operation, each node comprising means for receiving, storing and transmitting data, characterized in that an In-box having a predetermined logical location is reserved for each user, and data intended for a particular user is stored at the node at which it is received together with information indicating the logical location of the In-box of the user for which the data is intended, wherein the system is arranged such that said data can be retrieved at one or more other nodes in the system and such that all data bearing said predetermined logical location information is accessed when said user's In-box is accessed.

17 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet